

## **West University Senior Board Meeting Minutes**

**April 12, 2018**

**Presiding:** Selby Clark presided and called the meeting to order at 2:01 PM

**Present:** Ruth Becker, Selby Clark, Joan Johnson, Carlos De La Torre, Sarah Ballanfant, Tom Brombacher, John Palmer, Susan Davis, Stan McCandless, Judy Faulkner, Ann Crowley **Staff:** Toby Brooks, Susan White

**Absent:** Virginia Lootens, Rebecca Dozier, George Baker and Candyce Beneke

**Council Liaison:** Kellye Burke was not present

**Minutes:** March minutes were unanimously approved

**Citizen Comments:** Ms. Drewes commented on her request for hearing devices to be available to citizens who need them. Susan White explained they are available for pick up based on need. Ms. Drewes explained this was unacceptable. PARD is raising fees for seniors and this too is unacceptable and that seniors should not have to pay any fees because they have already paid taxes. Ms. Drewes requested personal trainer be available to all seniors.

John Palmer suggested the creation of a sub-committee to investigate the hearing devices level of functioning process for borrowing during City Council meeting. Stan McCandless inquired about "looping" which Toby explained they only work with certain devices which make them limited in usefulness.

**City Council:** No Report, Kellye Burke absent

**Parks and Recreation Report:** Hughes Park – currently out for bid. The good news is there has been lot of interest in the project. The prebid meeting was held on 4/10, and there were numerous contractors present. Bids are due next week on April 19, so we will have a solid figure for the funding request at the May 9 Friends Board meeting. To simplify and for clarity for bidders, the porch and cover and masonry fence are included in the plan design and the removal of the porch cover and substitution of a double sided cedar fence are both listed as deduct alternate, which will be presented for council's consideration. Reminder that this bid is only for construction costs, and does not include the peripheral fees for design expenses, demolition, construction testing, tree work, etc. which equates to 135K.

One of the council goals is the comprehensive parks inventory and asset review including park utilization. The survey data collected by Texas A & M for the 2015 parks and open space master plan will be sent to the city manager for further direction. There was an excellent response rate, and it will be useful data as we look toward updating the parks and open space master plan and redevelopment program page to include JEH Park, and we talked about removing dates but keeping a preferred order. The parks board tabled the redevelopment program discussion until JEH Park is underway.

**Subcommittee Update:** Fees- Jeremy Veld is putting together the comments they received, along with staff's input. The goal is to have a proposed fee scheduled for the May parks board meeting.

**Programming** – Received feedback from the members on the Easter Spring festival and also on the concessionaire menu. At the last council meeting, Jami's Fine Foods was approved as the 2018 vendor at Colonial Park Pool. She has fresh menu items and offers healthier options.

**Tennis** – We believe we have worked out all of the kinks in the software. The final draft was distributed to the committee last week, and the goal is to roll out with the 3 month trial period by May 1. An email will be sent out to all parks and rec new subscribers, and signage will be posted on the courts with an online reservation and trial policy effective date.

Outdoor event series was revamped from the classical concert series to increase attendance. There was approximately 60 people in attendance for the Zeger Strings concert on Friday, April 6. April 13 will be a movie in the park, Incredibles (PG) and April 20 will be Shakespeare, HERE: Macbeth a family friendly performance. All events begin at 7 PM.

At the 4/23/18 council meeting, a proclamation will be made, naming the month of May as Older American's Month and Volunteer Month; recognizing the various boards for the dedication and service to their community.

**APAC:** No report, Virginia Lootens absent

**Good Neighbor Team:** Toby reported the good neighbor bags were delivered over a 2 week time. Next meeting is Thursday, April 19 and Carlos is presenting a comprehensive report on emergency care center in Houston he requested board members read his report and send him comments to him. He interviewed multiple health care facilities and all care centers are not equal.

**Activities and Previews:** The volleyball team played in a tournament, had fun but lost. There was a tour to the Houston Mural, the theme meal was "Back to College", there will be a new bulletin released soon, 25 attended the artful aging series which is scheduled for the first Thursday of each month at 11 AM.

**Old Business:** Ann Crowley reported the fees team will meet again and they are still compiling data. Stan asked if public input on fees is possible. Ann explained they are working the structure of the fees, which is currently very complicate and the committee is streamlining. This is not affecting programming. Judy Faulkner talked about the Arbor Day event and thought it was very successful. Many suggested we have hats and shirts for our next event, July 4 parade. Joan asked if the board would meet in the summer months. Toby explained in the past the board took off July and August unless a meeting was required. Selby suggested anyone interested in serving on the subcommittee to investigate hearing support let him know.

**Meeting Adjourned:** by unanimous vote and 3:12 PM.